



Kiddie Hall Child Care Center Where Lifetime Learning Begins



Frequently Asked Questions

Please describe Knowledge Beginnings' educational program.

At Knowledge Beginnings, we are committed to maintaining a child development program that is age-appropriate and flexible enough to accommodate individual differences in needs, abilities and interests of each and every child. *The Piaget Discovery Program* is a copyrighted, state-of-the-art curriculum program that Knowledge Beginnings' educators developed based on our expertise and 60 years of groundbreaking cognitive research by the late Swiss psychologist Jean Piaget and other early childhood researchers. This curriculum promotes individual growth by providing numerous opportunities for exploration, manipulation and child-initiated choices. Our academically enriched pre-kindergarten program called *The Pre-Primary Enrichment Program* (PREP) will also ensure that all children move into primary school with the social and cognitive skills that are essential for success.

The educational program will be discussed in more depth during the information tables and open houses. However, you may find out more about our program by going to: www.knowledgelearning.com

Will I be able to tour the center before I send in my application? If not, when can I visit the center?

The center will still be under construction during the pre-application months and therefore, will not be open for tours. Throughout the upcoming months however, the center director will be at information tables located conveniently near the downtown City offices so that parents may meet her and ask any further questions they have regarding the center.

The center will be hosting open houses in the weeks prior to the center's opening and tours will be available during this time. Information regarding open houses and information tables will be relayed to applicants and other interested parties.

What if I sent in my pre-enrollment form without my check for the registration fee?

Applications missing the registration fee will not be processed until the registration fee has arrived.

Is the registration fee refundable?

The registration fee is only refundable if you are placed on the official waitlist (i.e., not offered a space after all received pre-applications are processed following the due date of September 16, 2002) and then you contact us and ask to be removed from the list, prior to Knowledge Beginnings notifying you that you have been awarded a space. Once you have been offered a space, regardless of whether you accept it or not, the registration fee cannot be refunded. In other words, *as long as you have never been offered a space for your child*, the registration fee will be refunded upon request, if you no longer want to remain on the waitlist. However, you may choose to stay on the official waitlist until you receive a space, but please remember that we will not be able to guarantee a space for your child at any point in time.

If I have a child enrolled in the center and wish to later enroll my other child, will my second child receive priority?

Knowledge Beginnings does offer priority enrollment for siblings. Additionally, older siblings receive a 10% discount on tuition.

What part-time options are being offered?

Currently, Knowledge Beginnings is offering part-week options for the two-year-old, preschool and pre-kindergarten classrooms. There will be a designated number of Tuesday and Thursday spaces as well as Monday, Wednesday and Friday part-week spaces available in every classroom. The part-week options & tuition rates are presented on the following page:

2-Day Option (Tuesdays and Thursdays) Weekly Rates		
	City Rates	Non-City Rates
Two's	\$69.00	\$81.00
Preschool	\$58.00	\$69.00
Pre-Kindergarten	\$58.00	\$69.00

3-Day Option (Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays) Weekly Rates		
	City Rates	Non-City Rates
Two's	\$100.00	\$117.00
Preschool	\$84.00	\$100.00
Pre-Kindergarten	\$84.00	\$100.00

Families requesting full-time care will receive priority over those requesting part-time care. Families interested in part-time care should complete the pre-enrollment application and indicate the type of care desired.

If I only need care for five hours a day, five days per week, do I have to pay the entire weekly tuition?

As described above, the part-time options that Knowledge Beginnings will offer are two part-week options that include full-day care for either two days a week (Tuesdays and Thursdays) or three days a week (Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays).

Currently, all arrangements require that the tuition be paid for full days regardless of hours of daily attendance. Please also note that children are permitted to be at the center during all operating hours.

Why doesn't Knowledge Beginnings offer part-week options for infants and toddlers?

Due to the high demand for full-time care within the infant and toddler age groups, Knowledge Beginnings will not be able to offer part-time options for these age groups. Further, we have found that full-time schedules for children in these younger age groups seem to better support their adjustment to the program.

If I already sent in my application and registration fee but want part-time care as opposed to full-time care, do I need to indicate which days now?

Yes. Please email which part-time option you would like to: familyservices@knowledgebeginnings.com. If you are flexible regarding which days you want care (i.e., could utilize either Monday, Wednesday, Friday care or Tuesday, Thursday care) please note that as well. There will be a limited number of part-time spaces per classroom, but we will do our best to accommodate your preference.

What are the procedures for drop-in care for School-Age children?

Parents interested in utilizing our drop-in care services for school-age children during school breaks are not required to submit an application and registration fee during the pre-enrollment period. Drop-in care for school-age children is conducted on a space-available, daily basis and enrollment will only be determined when care is required, during school breaks (i.e., summer, off-track times and holiday breaks). However, interested families should fill out the complete application (differs from the pre-application) and pay the \$50 registration fee once the center has opened so that the center has all of the required information on file when drop-in care is needed.

What will be the parking arrangements for dropping-off and picking-up children at/from the center?

For preschool-age children, there will be a drop-off area on 7th Avenue. At this location, there will be a system in place that will involve a staff member signing in children as parents drop children off. Families with infants and toddlers will be able to park underneath the Comerica building in a limited number of spaces designated for the bank and delivery vehicles, and then take the child, via the elevator, to the center. These families will receive a Kiddie Hall parking pass that will allow families one-hour of free parking so they may drop-off or pick-up their infants/toddlers.

What kind of security procedures will be in place at the center?

When children are dropped off at the center, the parents clock their children into our computer system and also physically sign-in their children. For parents using the drop-off zone described above, teachers will sign the children in as they are being dropped off by their parents. When children are picked up from the center, they are released only to a designated parent or guardian. If the designated parent or guardian is not available to pick up the

child, only individuals who are listed as release alternatives on the enrollment form are permitted to pick-up the child. ID's will be checked in such situations.

The building itself is secured with a key pad that requires a special code for entry into the center and will be given to all parents and guardians. For those who do not have a designated code to enter the center, they will ring the doorbell and the director will request proper identification and then allow the person to enter. Additionally, the Comerica building has 24-hour security personnel in place.

If I am awarded a space at the center for the center's opening date, when will I be responsible to pay the first month's tuition?

The first month's tuition will be collected during an Open House or a tour during the months of October/November. In addition to submitting the tuition, you will be required to complete a comprehensive enrollment application that includes all required information for your child.

What do I do if I do not want to enroll my child right when the center opens (projected November 2002)?

You may still send in your pre-enrollment application with the registration fee. In an attempt to accommodate your child's later enrollment date, we will place your child on the official waitlist and do our best to offer your child a space as close to the requested start date as possible. Please note that Knowledge Beginnings cannot guarantee spaces for enrollments scheduled to start after the opening date of the center. On the pre-application, *please note the earliest possible start date for your child* in order to increase your chances of obtaining a space around the desired start date. However, if you are unable to take the space when it is offered to you, you will be placed at the bottom of the waitlist in your priority category and we will not be able to refund the registration fee.

I start work early in the morning, is it possible to drop my child off at the center at 6:00 am? What if I get off work at 6:30 pm?

The child care center will not be accepting children before the center opens. Additionally, late fees will be charged to families that do not pick up their child when the center closes. Knowledge Beginnings' operating hours are from 6:30 am until 6:00 pm.